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Preparedness and Planning

Emergency Preparedness Cuts in Budget Deal Threaten U.S. Security

Preparedness experts state that the [funding cuts](#) included in the current budget agreement in Congress will undermine national security. Of particular concern is the nineteen percent reduction in the FEMA grant programs from the 2010 budget.

Evaluation of Microwave Steam Bags for the Decontamination of Filtering Facepiece Respirators

Authors in PLoS One discuss how healthcare in the home environment can safely decontaminate full face respirators (FFR) for reuse. They suggest the use of two easily accessible items, a microwave and a microwave steam bag. The authors evaluated two types of commercially available microwave steam bags and their effectiveness in decontaminating six types of FFR. They [collected data](#) on FFR filtration performance, FFR water absorption, decontamination efficacy, ease of use, and logistic benefits. The research showed that the steam bags effectively disinfected the FFR. However, they also found that the more hydrophilic the mask material was, the longer the item had to dry before reuse.

NYC "Dirty Bomb" Drill Hailed as Success

Recently, a [five-day exercise](#) was conducted in New York City as part of the Securing the Cities Initiative. The exercise aimed to prevent a radiological or nuclear attack on the city by using radiation sensors to probe for cesium sources from mock terrorists.

Guidance for Integrating Culturally Diverse Communities into Planning for and Responding to Emergencies

Developed from the recommendations of the National Consensus Panel on Emergency Preparedness and Cultural Diversity, and with support from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Minority Health, [this toolkit](#) provides strategies to integrate issues related to race, ethnicity, culture, language, and trust into emergency preparedness, response, and recovery activities.

CDC's Climate-Ready States & Cities Initiative

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention's [Climate-Ready States and Cities Initiative](#) is helping 10 states, including [Michigan](#), develop ways to anticipate health effects by applying climate science, predicting health impacts, and preparing flexible programs. CDC will help states and cities partner with local and national climate scientists to understand the potential climate changes in their areas. CDC will assist states and cities in developing and using models to predict health impacts, to monitor health effects, and to identify the area's most vulnerable populations.

News

Nuclear Preparedness Special Issue-All Content Open Access

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness has released a special issue on [nuclear preparedness](#) which includes articles on risk perception, prenatal radiation exposure, and survival interval in earthquake entrapments.

Nuclear Power Plant Sites: Maps of Seismic Hazards and Population Centers

The Congressional Research Service created a document containing [maps of the nuclear power plant sites](#) in the US along with data on seismic hazards and population centers.

Preventing a Nuclear Terrorist Version of Fukushima

Last month the European Union agreed to conduct [safety stress tests](#) on all 143 of its nuclear reactors to test their ability to withstand events such as the earthquake and tsunami that struck Fukushima.

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Read the Next *Guardian* Issue!
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Emergency Response: Civil Liability of Volunteer Health Professionals

The Congressional Research Service has released an update to a 2009 report on the civil liability of volunteer health professionals. [The report](#) gives a general overview of the federal and state liability protections which are available to volunteer health professionals.

Guidelines for Working with Hazardous Chemicals

Last week the National Research Council released an [updated guide](#) on the handling of hazardous chemicals in the laboratory. The guide includes new information on emergency planning, lab security, and environmental health and safety systems.

EMAC Preparedness Guide & Deployment Tips for State, Local and Tribal Public Health and Medical Personnel

The Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) Preparedness Guide and Deployment Tips document is intended to provide [guidance and recommendations](#) to state, local and tribal public health and medical professionals providing or requesting mutual aid assistance between states during a Governor declared state of emergency or disaster.

Citizens Corps Volunteer Liability Guide

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has learned from Citizen Corps Councils, volunteer program managers, and volunteers that liability is a significant concern and a potential barrier to volunteer involvement in emergency services. Liability, legal responsibility for one's acts or omissions, includes diverse concerns: legally imposed payment of damages for personal injury or property damage; penalties for practicing a profession or trade without the required license or permit; compensation for lost income and medical expenses of an injured volunteer; and damages for breach of contract. To offer guidance in this area, FEMA funded the nonprofit Public Entity Risk Institute (PERI) to develop the [Citizen Corps Volunteer Liability Guide \(CCVLG\)](#) to provide an overview of liability and to suggest some approaches to addressing these concerns.

CDC Develops Crisis Response Toolkit for Public Health Response Authorities

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Center for Environmental Health, Division of Environmental Hazards and Health Effect Health Studies Branch has produced the Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response ([CASPER](#)) Toolkit to address challenges public health and other emergency response officials confront in identifying, preparing for, responding to, and mitigating disasters, such as large-scale outbreaks. The main objective of CASPER is to rapidly assess the present and potential health effects and basic needs for a population affected by a disaster.

Guidelines for Biosafety Laboratory Competency

The Centers for Disease Control and the Association of Public Health Laboratories published in Morbidity and Mortality Weekly [outline guidelines](#) for biosafety laboratory competency. These guidelines help prevent hazards when handling biologic materials by ensuring adequate safety conditions. The key issues addressed are: well designed workspace, knowledge of specific biologic agents and toxins, quality laboratory management practices, and an overall safety culture. The authors recommend these essential competencies should be incorporated into safety programs for laboratories that handle biologic material.

New National Preparedness Presidential Policy Focuses on Capabilities

The federal government is aiming to move preparedness activities away from overly burdensome requirements to a more streamlined approach with the release of a new policy. President Barack Obama signed a [new presidential policy directive](#) on national preparedness on March 30, which is the result of a comprehensive review of national preparedness policy and replaces Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8.

Surveillance

Combating Antimicrobial Resistance: Policy Recommendations to Save Lives

The Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) published [policy recommendations](#) to combat antimicrobial resistance in the journal *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. They cite the main reason for antimicrobial resistance is not the habits of the people taking them or the physicians who prescribe them. They suggest that drug companies not investing in the production of new antimicrobials is the issue. The IDSA made eight recommendations for policy including developing incentives for drug companies to invest in the development of new antimicrobials and new regulations that could facilitate the development of new antimicrobials.

Climate Change Indicators Project

The Michigan Department of Community Health's Division of Environmental Health is participating in a multi-state project to pilot test a set of 24 indicators related to climate change and health that have been proposed by a workgroup of state epidemiologists coordinated by the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. Indicators are measures of health or factors associated with health in specific populations, for given areas, and specified periods of time. Examples of climate change indicators include heat-related mortality, injuries from extreme weather events, access to cooling centers, precipitation, sea level, and greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere. The climate change indicator pilot will be completed in May. After the indicators are finalized, Michigan will use them to track the effects and impacts of climate change, assist decisionmakers on how to best use resources to respond to climate change, and assist public health in accessing and using these data sets at the local level. For more information, contact Robert Wahl, DMV, MPH, at wahlR@michigan.gov.

Assessment of ESSENCE Performance for Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance After an Influenza Outbreak --- U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado, 2009

Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-Based Epidemics (ESSENCE) is an internet-based surveillance system utilized by both civilian public health and the military that was created to increase the timeliness of disease detection. The researchers used the CDC's Updated Guidelines for Evaluating Public Health Surveillance Systems to assess the ESSENCE system. The [results of the assessment](#) showed that the usefulness of the ESSENCE system varied by the user. They also found that false alarms from the system were time-consuming to investigate. The ESSENCE system was found to be easy to use and the data easy to comprehend.

FDA Permits Marketing of First Test to Help Diagnose Dengue Fever

The Food and Drug Administration has recently authorized marketing of the [first test](#) to diagnose people with the signs and symptoms of dengue fever or dengue hemorrhagic fever. Recent dengue outbreaks have occurred in Hawaii, Texas and Florida.

On Being the Right Size: The Impact of Population Size and Stochastic Effects on the Evolution of Drug Resistance in Hospitals and the Community

A study in [PLOS Pathogens](#) analyzes if the size of the hospital affects drug resistance and if that resistance could then spread into the surrounding community. They utilized an extended mathematical model of antibiotic resistance spread to test the hypothesis. The data showed that antibiotic resistance is higher at large hospitals. Smaller hospitals were more likely to acquire resistance from the environment.

Communications

New National Terrorism Advisory System

Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano announced the implementation of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS)—a [robust terrorism advisory system](#) that provides timely information to the public about credible terrorist threats and replaces the former color-coded alert system. The announcement includes the release of a public guide outlining the new system to the American public, along with an example of an NTAS Alert that would be issued to the public if the government were to receive information about a specific or credible terrorist threat.

A Two-way Conversation in the Impact Zone

Japan's disaster has spotlighted the critical role that [social media websites](#) such as Twitter, Facebook, Google, YouTube and Skype increasingly are playing in responses to crises around the world. They may have been designed largely for online socializing and fun, but such sites and others have empowered people caught up in crises and others wanting to help to share vivid, unfiltered images, audio and text reports before governments or more traditional media can.

Earthquakes, Tsunamis, and Radiological Emergencies - Public Health Situation Awareness: Feedback Forum 8

The BioSense Redesign Program has posted their eighth Public Health Situation Awareness focusing on earthquakes, tsunamis and radiological emergencies. CDC is [requesting your feedback](#) to better understand the spectrum of data types necessary during an event and also during routine monitoring and surveillance. Your feedback is valuable to the redesign of the BioSense system and program. [Archived questions](#) are also available.

Twitter and Natural Disasters: Lessons from Japan

Researchers at Kobe University found that Twitter was the only functioning communication tool in the affected area immediately following the earthquake. The [social media site](#) helped to spread news following the disaster but also spread misinformation.

The Resource Guide for Public Health Preparedness

The resource guide is a guide to disaster and public health preparedness literature and related information that is [freely available](#) on the Internet. It consists of a searchable database of fulltext linked resources not found in the commercially published biomedical journal literature. Resources accessible through the Resource Guide include guidelines and protocols, reports, Web sites, fact sheets, presentations and other information resources essential in public health and disaster preparedness.

Animal Planet Series to Feature CDC Experts

The TV network, Animal Planet, is scheduled to air six episodes of their new series "[Killer Outbreaks](#)." Each episode features potentially deadly viruses and includes commentary from CDC experts and victims of the outbreak. The show takes what many CDC staff do for a living and turns it into a thrilling docu-drama. The episodes will cover Anthrax, E.coli, Hantavirus, Rabies, West Nile Virus, Monkey Pox, Acinetobacter baumannii, Salmonella, Valley Fever, Meningococcal Disease, SARS and MRSA.

ASTHO Following Japanese Earthquake Response

ASTHO is co-hosting semi-weekly conference calls between ASTHO members, partners, and representatives from federal agencies to provide information on the national Japanese earthquake, tsunami, and damaged nuclear power plant response efforts. Information from the combined federal agencies has been posted on a [central website](#).

Introducing CDC's New Health Literacy Web Site

CDC invites you to visit Health Literacy: Accurate, Accessible and Actionable Health Information for All, the agency's new [health literacy web site](#). The site provides information and tools to improve health literacy and public health and make health information accurate, accessible and actionable for all. The resources are for all organizations that interact and communicate with people about health, including public health departments, healthcare providers and facilities, health plans, government agencies, non-profit, community and advocacy organizations, childcare and schools, the media, and health-related industries. The site features health literacy organizations by state and planning tools to use the National Action Plan to Improve Health Literacy.

New DHS Private Sector Office Initiatives

The DHS Private Sector office continues to find ways to engage the private sector. They have a new webpage where you can find all of the main initiatives that impact private sector partners. The page also provides easy access to many departmental resources, such as the Commercialization Office and [SAFETY Act](#). They have also developed two new webpages that provide information on the DHS for a Day program. DHS for a Day is an opportunity for private sector partners to learn more about the DHS mission and their operations and engagement throughout the nation. [Learn more](#) about the overall DHS for a Day program and read specific stories of past events.

What's New on REMM?

Radiation Emergency Medical Management (REMM) released new online and Mobile versions. Some of the [key updates](#) include:

- Mobile REMM: updated content for Android (new), iPhone,Blackberry, and Windows Mobile
- Nuclear Reactor Accidents: new content and references
- Potassium Iodide: new content and references
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): 14 new pages with photos
- Seven new video screencast tutorial: explaining key REMM interactive clinical tools
- Nuclear detonation clinical triage tool for use if medical respondersresources are scarce
- Simplified clinical algorithm for managing radiation exposure: new format and content

Pandemic Planning

Onset of a Pandemic: Characterizing the Initial Phase of the Swine Flu (H1N1) Epidemic in Israel

Researchers in BMC Infectious Diseases sought to understand the dynamics of the initial phase of the 2009 H1N1 pandemic influenza outbreak. They cite understanding this phase of an outbreak can help more rapidly create policy necessary for outbreak control. They used a dataset from Israel of all confirmed cases between April and July 2009, as well as contact data. They then estimated key epidemiological features to characterize the outbreak. [The research](#) showed the use of high quality data allowed for a better picture of the beginnings of the outbreak. The authors suggest this information would have been useful in containing the outbreak in Israel.

WHO Workgroup Pushes for Virus Sharing and Pandemic Vaccine Access Pact

The World Health Organization (WHO) Open-Ended Working Group of Member States on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (PIP-OEWG) is working towards an agreement on virus sharing in regards to pandemic influenza. This agreement will be guidance for the next five years on virus sharing. The workgroup hopes this agreement will help get vaccine and other available resources to countries that need it most. The full meeting background materials and updates are [available online](#).

Statistical Estimates of Absenteeism Attributable to Seasonal and Pandemic Influenza

Researchers in BMC Infectious Diseases tested statistical models that estimate the [absentee rates and hours lost](#) due to influenza. They extracted the influenza absentee data between 1998 and 2009 from Statistics Canada's monthly labour force survey. Research showed that seasonal influenza contributed to 3% of the hours lost compared to 6% for 2009 H1N1 pandemic influenza.

MCEIRS Launches New Online Training Module: Agricultural Worker Health and the Influenza Virus

The Minnesota Center of Excellence for Influenza Research and Surveillance has developed a new [online training module](#) on Agricultural Worker Health and the Influenza Virus. The module provides information to protect agricultural workers from disease and recommends their inclusion in the pandemic planning process.

Other News

Japan Nuclear Disaster Tops Scale

Japan declared the Fukushima Daiichi crisis a [Level 7 event](#) on the international system for rating nuclear accidents on April 12th, putting it on par with the 1986 Chernobyl disaster in the former Soviet Union. The topscale designation was based on the massive release of radioactivity since the accident began, particularly in its early days, and classifies Fukushima Daiichi a "major accident" requiring long-term countermeasures. "At all costs, all the reactors and the spent nuclear fuel pools must be brought under control so that we can prevent a further expansion of the damage," Prime Minister Naoto Kan said. Scientists believe the amount of radiation released is only a tenth of what was released at Chernobyl, said Hidehiko Nishiyama, the chief spokesperson for Japan's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency. Nevertheless, the levels for radioactive iodine and cesium that have been spewed into the air, water and soil around the plant are in the thousands of trillions of bequerels, 15 times higher than the threshold for a top-scale event, according to figures released by the safety agency.

A Year of Living Dangerously: A Review of Natural Disasters in 2010

A new report by the Brookings Institute highlights [natural disasters in 2010](#) and the human rights of those affected. This report is an overview of natural disasters that occurred in 2010 and the worldwide humanitarian response. The review also delves more deeply in to the Haiti earthquake and flooding in Pakistan.

Training & Education

ASTHO Useful Practices

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) encourages state and territorial health agencies to submit useful practices from real-life emergencies or planning exercises on [ASTHO's Useful Practices Website](#). These practices assist other states with their preparedness planning and response activities.

Early Responders Distance Learning Center (FDA/ANGB)

The Early Responders Distance Learning Center (ERDLC) of Saint Joseph's University was founded with the mission of providing state of the art and [accredited training for emergency responders](#) to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and terrorist incidents. ERDLC is partially funded through congressional appropriations directed to facilitate cross-agency cooperation and involvement at the federal, state, and local government levels.

CDC Learning Connection: Bioterror Risk

A case-based [mini-course](#) from the University of Illinois at Chicago focuses on hazard recognition, interagency communication, risk assessment, and risk communication for the public health workforce.

Centers for Public Health Preparedness (CPHP)

The primary focus of [CPHP program activities](#) is the delivery of education, training, and dissemination of new information related to enhancing emergency preparedness and response.

Emergency Management Institute (EMI/FEMA)

Emergency Management Institute offers [self-paced courses](#) designed for people who have emergency management responsibilities and the general public. All are offered free-of-charge to those who qualify for enrollment.

The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut

The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut is a day of special events featuring one of the largest earthquake preparedness events in central U.S. history, organized to inspire central U.S. residents to get ready for big earthquakes, and to prevent disasters from becoming catastrophes. The drill will occur in houses, businesses, and public spaces alike throughout the central U.S. at 10:15 AM on April 28, 2011. Free registration at www.ShakeOut.org/centralus will pledge an individual's or group's participation in this important preparedness event. Participants will receive information on how to prepare for the inevitable major earthquake in the region and what actions to take before, during, and after the shaking.

Bridging the Gaps: Public Health and Radiation Emergency Preparedness

The Bridging the Gaps: Public Health and Radiation Emergency Preparedness national conference was held in Atlanta, GA, March 21 - 24, 2011. Participants included state and local public health planners, public health emergency coordinators, radiation control program directors, emergency services clinicians, volunteer managers, emergency managers, risk communicators and first responders from across the country. Federal leaders from CDC, ASPR, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), DHS, the Office of the Surgeon General and White House National Security Staff also participated. The conference provided a forum to discuss the current state of radiation emergency preparedness, including gaps and barriers at the local, state, and federal levels; share promising practices and practical applications to enhance the planning for response to, and recovery from radiation emergencies; and create a professional network of public health professionals and other stakeholders invested in advancing the field of radiation emergency preparedness. Conference presentations are [available online](#).

Date/Time	Event	Location
April 25, 2011 12:00 PM	Evacuation of Students with and without Access and Functional Needs Marcie Roth, director of the Office for Disability Integration and Coordination at the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Richard Devylder, Senior Advisor for Accessible Transportation at the U.S. Department of Transportation, will be providing strategies for planning and responding to the needs of children during evacuations. Both are national leaders in planning for and responding to the needs of children and adults with disabilities and others with access and functional needs. The webinar will be an opportunity to look at planning and responding from a functional needs perspective and a universal team approach.	Webinar
April 29, 2011 1:00 PM	Webinar: Climate Change: Mastering the Public Health Role "A Look at State and Local Practice in Developing Vulnerability and Needs Assessments". Participants must register to participate in this webinar. Last year's climate change webinar series has been translated into a practical guidebook for public health professionals. The guidebook will be available online in late April 2011, if you would like to request a hard copy of the guidebook mailed to you, please visit http://www.apha-environment.org/ .	Webinar
May 2, 2011	Supporting Youth into Healthy Productive Adulthood This workshop is for individuals working with young people in faith-based organizations, schools, and youth groups in Wayne County. Participants will explore ways to give parents/caregivers, teachers, and others working with children the tools they need to make responsible decisions. CUEs are available. Cost: \$10-\$15. Click here for more information, including registration information.	Detroit, MI Additional MI Locations: May 7 - Detroit
May 3, 2011	Great Lakes Homeland Security Training Conference & Expo This annual conference brings together more than 1,200 attendees from a variety of disciplines including law enforcement, fire, public health and health care, school administration, emergency management, and the private sector.	Grand Rapids, MI

Date/Time	Event	Location
May 4, 2011	Military Families: Access to Care for Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve, Veterans, Their Families, and Those Close to Them Military deployment and trauma-related stress can have a major impact on returning service men and women and their families, making the need for behavioral health care an urgent national priority. Yet, many—whether they be active duty, National Guard, reserve, or veterans—either are not interested in or are unable to access the care they need, and the same is true of their spouses and children. This show will examine the serious issue of behavioral health care needs by exploring the nature and scope of substance use and mental disorders, the strengths and weaknesses of the system to address these disorders, and the efforts under way to improve our Nation's ability to meet its obligations to service members and their families. Specific improvement strategies are highlighted, including collaboration and coordination that increase access to care; community-based solutions that foster access to evidencebased prevention, treatment, and recovery support services; and development of the behavioral health workforce to better serve the military and their families.	Online
May 5, 2011	Great Lakes Border Health Initiative Conference Save the date for this important international conference. As more information becomes available, it will be posted on Michigan's border health webpage .	Niagara Falls, NY
May 10, 2011	International Crisis & Risk Communication Conference (ICRC) This conference will discuss best practices in crisis communication as well as new avenues for communication, the growing role of Social Media and the internal struggles that crisis communicators face with suggestions for overcoming them. Experts speakers include current and former top executives from some of the most prominent organizations throughout the world and leading scholars from the top research universities, including those from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S. Coast Guard, BP, Walt Disney World, AirTran Airways and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.	Orlando, FL
May 12, 2011	2011 EMS Summit This three-day conference provides excellent information and training opportunities for pre-hospital providers. There are over 20 credits available, including specialty credits. Visit the Huron-Sanilac EMS network website for more information including agenda, speaker bios, and registration details.	Bavarian Inn Lodge Frankenmuth, MI

Date/Time	Event	Location
May 16, 2011	National Level Exercise 2011 Emergency planners, responders, and receivers in the United States are preparing for an earthquake similar to - or even larger than - the one that just ravaged Japan. The Federal Emergency Management Agency's, National Level Exercise 2011, May 16-19, will address this concern and help the nation prepare and train for a similar disaster situation. Specifically, this exercise will simulate a major earthquake in the New Madrid Seismic Zone, the site of the largest earthquake in U.S. history (1811-1812). Bruce Piringer, Instructor at the University of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute, and Col. (US Army, ret.) Fenton "Dutch" Thomas, Chief Operating Officer at My LifePlan Inc. discuss the benefits of federal, state, and local cooperation when preparing for catastrophic events. Listen to NLE Roundtable Interview.	
May 25, 2011	Communicable Disease Conference <u>This conference</u> seeks to provide the latest knowledge on communicable disease diagnosis, surveillance, reporting, laboratory test interpretation, and incorporation of epidemiologic principals. The target audience includes communicable disease nurses, epidemiologists, medical officers, health officers, infection control professionals, environmental health specialists, physicians, or any other health professional interested in communicable diseases.	Doubletree Hotel Bay City, MI
Jun 7, 2011	2011 Rural and Ready Conference: All Walks of Life Topics to be covered at this years conference include Public Safety, Cyber Security, Mental Health, Self Sufficient Planning, the Strategic National Stockpile, and Crisis Prevention-Infectious Disease. Registration is available through the Chippewa County Health Department's website . Registration fee is \$15.	Kewadin Casino and Resort Sault Ste Marie, MI
Jun 8, 2011	Michigan Specific Advanced Disaster Life Support Instructor Course <u>This course</u> will present information and materials to prepare the successful participant to become a strong member of the Michigan National Disaster Life Support Training Programs. Prior completion of Basic Disaster Life Support and Advanced Disaster Life Support courses and approval of your Regional Healthcare Coalition Coordinator are required to attend. Anyone interested in attending the NDLS Instructor course should contact Stu Myers and briefly describe past training/instructor experience, current Michigan medical license type, and the emergency preparedness /response role they play within their home region. Class size is limited and meeting the NDLS instructor needs of the eight Michigan regions will be a priority in determining student acceptance.	MDCH OPHP Offices Lansing, MI

Date/Time	Event	Location
Jun 10, 2011	Advanced Disaster Life Support Course for Statewide Participation An intensive, <u>2-day course</u> that allows students to demonstrate competencies in casualty decontamination, specified essential skills, and mass casualty incident information systems/technology applications. Using simulated, all-hazards scenarios and mass causality incidents, ADLS makes use of four interactive sessions in which participants treat simulated patients in various disaster drills and situations. Training is focused on the development of hands-on skills to allow participants to apply the knowledge learned in BDLS. Prior completion of the Basic Disaster Life Support course and approval of your Regional Healthcare Coalition Coordinator are required to attend. Lodging and food will be provided at no cost to attendees. Anyone interested in attending this course should contact <u>Stu Myers</u> .	Fort Custer Educational Center (FCEC), Fort Custer Training Center, Michigan
Jun 19, 2011	21st World Conference on Disaster Management This year's <u>conference</u> will bring emergency response and management delegates from over 40 countries. The WCDM offers a program that challenges delegates by examining traditional concepts and methods, and provides: new ideas and approaches to problem solving; both leading edge and topical presentations; opportunities to connect with key individuals and organizations across the disaster management spectrum.	Metro Convention Center Toronto, CANADA
Jul 6, 2011	2011 Chemical Security Summit The <u>fifth annual summit</u> will provide a forum for representatives from the chemical community to exchange information and network with other security professionals, to share best practices, to find out about chemical security regulations, and to gain insight into the roles of state, local, and federal agencies and departments involved in chemical security.	Baltimore, MD



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